Discharge of the Effluents of the Kedia Distillery into Kharoon River

7085. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item appearing in the "Indian Express" dated the 25th April, 1995, under the caption, "Turning the river of life into a river of curse";

(b) if so, how the effluents of the Kedia Distillery were discharged into the river Kharoon, causing colossal loss of crop and a number of serious ailments among the people;

(c) the action taken against the Kedia Distillery;

(d) whether any compensation has been paid to the victims; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if no compensation has been given, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH). (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. According to Madhya Pradesh Pollution Control Board, the effluents of Kedia Distillery were discharged into the river Kharoon due to accidental breach of lagoons in which primary treated waste water was stored.

(c) Madhya Pradesh Pollution Control Board has directed the industry to close down the operations and also to take the following actions:

(i) To put up temporary bunds on the Khapri Nalla to check the flow of waste water.

(ii) To pump the effluent from the Khapri Nalla to the nearby 40 acres land acquired by the unit recently, so that no discharge is allowed to pass into the river Kharoon.

(iii) To repair the lagoon bund at the breached sections.

(iv) To install pumps to dispose of the effluents to the land belonging to the industry.

(d) and (e) No compensation has been paid to the victims sofar. However, a case has been filed in the Court of Additional District Judge, Raipur, for compensation of Rs. 2,50,600.

Vehicular Pollution Surveys

7086. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether vehicular pollution surveys have been conducted in seven cities in India by the Central Pollution Control Board; and

(b) if so, what are the findings of the survey?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND *FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) The* Central Pollution Control Board has carried out a major survey during 1988-89 on vehicular pollution in 12 major cities of the country. These are; Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta, Bangalore, Madras, Pune, Hyderabad, Kanpur, Lucknow, Jaipur, Nagpur and Ahmedabad.

(b) The major findings of the survey are given below :

(i) Vehicular population growth, particularly in terms of personalised transport, is increasing dramatically in all major cities of the country.

(ii) The major contribution of the pollution load (about 50 to 60%) to the total air pollution load in the major cities is due to vehicles and to a lesser extent due to air polluting industries and other sources such as fossil fuel burning for cooking and heating purposes.

(iii) Contribution of various categories of vehicles to air pollution is as follows :

— Two and three wheelers and passenger cars contribute equally to carbon monoxide addition to the atmosphere.

— Two and three wheelers contribute about 6 times the hydrocrbon addition to the atmosphere as compared to passenger cars and 3-5 times compared to commercial diesel vehicles.

— Nitrogen oxides addition to atmosphere by petrol driven vehicles is negligible as compared to commercial diesel vechicels.

(iv) Poor maintenance, erratic driving, ill-maintained traffic management and road network contribute to traffic congestion and pollution.

(v) The air quality, particularly at areas of high traffic density and during peak hours, shows a deterioration.

Project for protection of Bio-Diversity

7087. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the country is developing a project to project its bio-diversity with the assistance of IDA;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the project also involves people's participation; and

(d) if so, the manner in which assistance of local people would be sought?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A project for conservation of bio-diversity in Great Himalayan National park in Himachal Pradesh and Kalakad Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve in Tamil Nadu has been sanctioned with assistance of IDA at a total cost of US $ 5.3 million. The project has three components, namely, eco-development (US $ 3.3 million), Protected Areas Management (US $1 Monitoring and Evaluation (US $).

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The project envisages participation and assistance of the local people in deciding the activities under eco-development through the process of Participatory Rural Appraisal.

Environmental clearance for waterways

7088. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the declaration of some waterways as National waterways has been pending in the absence of environmental clearnace;

(b) whether any study has been conducted by his Ministry on the environmental impact of those projects;

(c) if so, the facts revealed from the study; and

(d) the details of steps taken to clear those projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) No such proposal has been submitted for environmental clearance.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Shifting of polluting industrial units out of Delhi

7089. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of areas and industrial estates in the NCR have been identified for shifting polluting industrial units from Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Central Pollution Control Board has directed such polluting units to shift out of Delhi; and

(d) if so, by when all such units are likely to be shifted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (d) The master plan of 1990 for Delhi incorporated the decision requiring certain categories of industries including hazardous and noxious units, heavy and large industries and those operating in non-conforming areas to move out of Delhi to certain areas identified by the National Capital Region Planning Board. This however, could not be implemented because of the absence of identified sites for relocating these industries. The Supreme Court, in its judgement dated 24-3-1995, directed the Central Pollution Control Board to issue notices to these industries to stop functioning and shift their operations out of Delhi. The decision on